

REMARKS:

I. Introduction

In the Office Action mailed on June 21, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1 to 3, 7, 8, and 10 to 22 and objected to claims 4 to 6, 9 and 23. The present amendment cancels claim 23, amends claims 1 and 22, and adds new claims 24 and 25. Accordingly, claims 1 to 22, 24, and 25 are now pending in this application.

II. Claim Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

(a) The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 3, 7, 8, 10 to 16, 21, and 22 under 35. U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lee (US 6,135,948).

Claim 1, and claims dependent therefrom, are allowable because claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of prior dependent claim 23 which was indicated to be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations of prior dependent claim 23. No prior art of record reasonably discloses or suggests the present invention as now defined by amended claim 22. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

(b) The Examiner rejected claims 17 to 20 under 35. U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lee (US 6,135,948) in view of Corazelli, Jr. (US 4,360,008).

Claims 17 to 20 are allowable as depending from allowable claim 1 as discussed above and independently allowable for novel and nonobvious matter contained therein.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS BASED ON 35 U.S.C.

The Examiner objected to claims 4 to 6, 9 and 23 as being dependent from a rejected base claim and indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As discussed above independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of

dependent claim 23 and claim 23 has been cancelled. There were no intervening claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is requested.

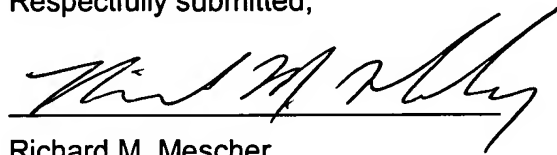
New independent claim 24 has been added which is prior dependent claim 4 rewritten into independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. That is, claim 24 is the independent form of prior claims 1 to 4. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is requested.

New independent claim 25 has been added which is prior dependent claim 9 rewritten into independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. That is, claim 25 is the independent form of prior claims 1 to 3 and 9. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is found that the present amendment does not place the application in a condition for allowance, applicant's undersigned attorney requests that the examiner initiate a telephone interview to expedite prosecution of the application. If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 50-3915.

Respectfully submitted,



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September 26, 2006